

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT, KENT

ANNUAL REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH


AND

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

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WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT, KENT

Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health and
Senior Public Health Inspector for the Year 1963

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1963.

Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year Home Population was 11,000 which was an increase of 170 over that of the previous year.

Live Births and Birth Rate

The number of live births was 182 which was a decrease of 8 from that of the previous year and the crude birth rate was accordingly 16.55; this becomes 19.86 after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor which is computed from a population standardised for age and sex distribution and was higher than that of 18.2 for England and Wales.

Stillbirths and Rate

Five stillbirths were registered and the rate of 26.74 per 1,000 total (live and still) births was rather higher than that of 17.3 for England and Wales which has remained more or less stationary for thirty years.

Infant Deaths and Mortality Rate

Four deaths were registered due to:-

Broncho-pneumonia	- 1 day	
Pyelonephritis	- 11 hours	
Bilateral Adrenal Haemorrhage	}	- 3 weeks
Diabetes of Mother		
Prematurity	- 1 day	

The infantile mortality rate was accordingly 21.92 compared with that of 20.9 for England and Wales.

The hard core of causes of Perinatal Mortality (i.e. stillbirths and infant deaths under one week of age) are prematurity, asphyxia and atelectasis, birth injuries and congenital malformations and the chief maternal factor is toxæmia of pregnancy.

Maternal Deaths and Mortality Rate

This rate was nil, as there were no maternal deaths due to Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion and is a reflection of the high standard of modern obstetric practice.

Total Deaths and Death Rate

The total number of deaths from all causes was 187 (73 M. 114 F.) and the crude death rate was 17.0; this higher rate was due to the naturally higher mortality in Hothfield Hospital which accommodates chronic sick patients and from which deaths are assigned to the District when patients have been resident for more than six months. The Registrar General's Comparability Factor which is computed from a population standardised for age and sex distribution takes this into account and the adjusted rate was 11.39 which was lower than that of 12.2 for England and Wales.

The majority of the deaths were from natural causes amongst the aged, namely Heart and Circulatory Disease and Vascular lesions of the Nervous System of which there were 88 out of the total of 187 deaths.

Disease of the Coronary Artery of the Heart was the cause of 30 (18 M. 12 F.) of those deaths or approximately 34%. Those were in the following age-groups:- 3 (M) between 35 - 44 yrs.; 1 (M) between 45 - 54 yrs.; 5 (3 M. 2 F.) between 55 - 64 yrs.; 4 (2 M. 2 F.) between 65 - 74 yrs.; 17 (9 M. 8 F.) over 75 years.

Cancer, as invariably in previous years, was the second highest cause of deaths, of which there were 30. 8 were in the 55 - 64 age-group, 10 in the 65 - 74 age-group and 12 were over 75 years.

Cancer of the Lung caused 6 (4 M. 2 F.) deaths, 4 of which were in the 55 - 64, and 2 in the 65 - 74 yrs. age-groups.

Infectious Diseases

Apart from an outbreak of Measles, the incidence of notifiable Infectious Diseases was minimal in the District throughout the year. There was no case of Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Typhoid or other serious infections, excluding one case of Meningococcal Infection.

Measles

The biennial outbreak occurred as expected, 441 cases having been notified. The virus is endemic amongst children and an outbreak occurs when a sufficient number of susceptible children has accumulated. Its more serious complications namely Broncho-pneumonia, Acute Otitis Media and rarely Acute Encephalitis, seem to occur less frequently and specific treatment with Sulpha drugs and Antibiotics is available.

Scarlet Fever

Only one case was notified. In its present phase, this is a mild infection, in contrast to its virulence of past years and the majority of cases are treated at home, unless there are social disadvantages which render it advisable that the patient should be removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. Its more serious complications, namely Acute Carditis, Acute Suppurative Otitis Media and Acute Nephritis are now comparatively infrequent although the latter may supervene unexpectedly from time to time.

Whooping Cough

Only two cases were notified which may be attributed to the success of the vaccination scheme - this distressful children's disease has caused in the past much lung damage and innumerable deaths.

Sonne Dysentery

Two cases of this bowel infection were notified - from one family. This disease in its present phase is mild, with diarrhoea, with or without blood, being the presenting sign. Owing to its mildness, many patients do not consult their Practitioners and become convalescent or chronic carriers. Personal hygiene is the most effective preventive measure.

Meningococcal Infection

One case of this infection was notified. During the last war, there was a number of cases in the area due to the influx of soldiers, but this infection is now comparatively uncommon.

Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia

Six cases of this illness were notified. Including the secondary Pneumonias which are not notifiable, there were 27 deaths, 20 of whom were over 75 years and the majority occurred in Hothfield Hospital for the chronic sick.

Tuberculosis

One new case of Respiratory Tuberculosis in the 35 - 44 age-group was

notified. The majority of notifications prior to circa 1950 were in the adolescent age-group, in contrast to the notifications of the present time which are in the more elderly age-groups.

One new case of Non-Respiratory (Sacro-Iliac) Tuberculosis was also notified.

No death was, however, registered, which is a reflection of the efficacy of modern treatment.

In conclusion, I would wish to thank you for your interest in the Department and also the staff for their efficient co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MARSHALL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Central Public Health Office,
14, Church Road,
Ashford,
Kent.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

FOR 1963

Area:- 39,453 acres.

Registrar-General's Estimate of:-	11,000
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The Resident Population

Number of Inhabited Houses According to the Rate Book	4,010
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Rateable Value	£264,906
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Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	£1,060
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SOCIAL CONDITIONS

West Ashford Rural District is predominantly agricultural in character - there are only a few light industries. The Council has been a progressive Housing Authority, having built 784 post-war houses and altogether own 876 houses. Generally social conditions are satisfactory.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>		<u>West Ashford Rural District</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
1. Live Births	182	93	89	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	16.55 (Adjusted Rate 19.86)	18.2
(a) Legitimate	166	82	84			
(b) Illegitimate	16	11	5			
2. <u>Stillbirths</u>	5	2	3	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	26.74	17.3
(a) Legitimate	4	1	3			
(b) Illegitimate	1	1	-			
3. <u>Total live and stillbirths</u>	187	95	92			
4. <u>Deaths</u>	187	73	114	Death rate per 1,000 resident population	17.0 (Adjusted Rate 11.39)	12.2
5. <u>Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion</u>	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 live births	-	Not Available
6. <u>Deaths of Infants Under One Year of Age</u>	4	1	3	Rate per 1,000 live births	21.92	20.9
(a) Legitimate	4	1	3	Rate per 1,000 leg- itimate live births	24.10	
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	
7. <u>Deaths of Infants Under Four Weeks of Age</u>	4	1	3	Rate per 1,000 live births	21.92	Not available
(a) Legitimate	4	1	3			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
8. <u>Illegitimate births per cent of total live births</u>					8.91%	
9. Deaths from Cancer (all ages)					30	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)					-	
Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea					-	
Deaths from Measles					-	

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year.

Measles	...	...	...	441
Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia	...	...	...	6
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	2
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	1
Dysentery	...	...	...	2

CAUSES OF DEATH IN WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT

DURING 1963

ALL CAUSES				Males	Females
				73	114
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	1	1
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	-	-
8.	Measles	...	...	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	2	-
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	4	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	-	6
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	-	-
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	5	11
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	-	1
16.	Diabetes	...	...	-	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	9	17
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	18	12
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	2	2
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	7	17
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	2	3
22.	Influenza	...	...	2	2
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	8	19
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	2	2
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	-	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	1	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	1	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	2	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	2	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	2	11
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	1	-
34.	All other accidents	...	...	2	2
35.	Suicide	...	...	-	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality, 1963

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>				<u>Total Cases on Register</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	48	12	6
1 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
5 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
15 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
25 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
35 ...	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-				
45 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
55 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Total	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis of a patient who had not been notified as suffering from this disease.

IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the diphtheria immunisation and whooping cough immunisation figures for 1963 based on the returns submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Year of Birth	Diphtheria Immunisation (Singly or in combination)		Whooping Cough Immunisation (Singly or in combination)
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Reinforcing</u>	<u>Primary</u>
1963	42	Nil	42
1962	56	5	56
1961	4	18	4
1960	1	14	Nil
1959	1	9	1
1954-1958	4	48	3
1949-1963	Nil	2	Nil
Total	108	96	106

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

Year	2 Injections (Salk)	3rd Dose (Salk and Oral)	4th Dose (Salk and Oral)	3 Orals (Complete Course)
1963	-	-	54	16
1962	-	1	-	75
1961	-	9	-	18
1957-1960	-	4	-	10
1943-1956	-	4	-	1
1933-1942	-	2	-	8
Others	1	1	-	12

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Primary Vaccination 1 Year	Re-Vaccination School Age but Under 8 Years
17	-

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY

Miniature Films Taken

<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Attending for first time</u>	
				<u>Number</u>	<u>%</u>
526		646	1172	511	43.60

<u>Active Tuberculosis</u>			<u>Inactive Tuberculosis</u>			<u>Cancer of Lung</u>		
<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	-	1	2	5	7	-	-	-

Public Health Department,
2 Elwick Road,
Ashford,
Kent.

To the Chairman and Members of the
West Ashford Rural District Council.

Madam Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my seventh annual report on the sanitary circumstances in the rural district and the activities of the department for the year 1963.

STAFF

Senior Public Health Inspector and
Public Cleansing Officer:

Arthur H. Hayes, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., S.R.N.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

P. Howard to 4th October, 1963.
F. Boddy from 1st November, 1963.

Clerk:

Rodent Operator:

Miss B. Dawson.

C. Myers.

Public Cleansing:

S. Foreman (foreman) and eight workmen.

T. Fright. Part time cleaner at public conveniences.

During the year a weekly refuse collection throughout the district was put into operation. This entailed the increasing of the staff from six to nine men and the purchase of a third vehicle. The recruitment of the labour force was most difficult as this class of workmen are at a premium in the area.

Great concern was felt over the fluoroacetamide poisoning at Smarden and the safety of the area had not been resolved up to the end of the year. There appears to be a need for a tightening up of the regulations that permit a plant to operate with such poisonous substances, without prior notice to the local authority, in order that disposal of waste products is carried out safely.

The Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 - making the inspection and marking of all meat an obligation of the local Council - brought with it an increase in the hours spent in the wholesale slaughterhouse. The Council having agreed to make a charge for this duty to offset the increase cost of work, and the owner, quite naturally, required the inspectorate to inspect and mark the carcasses to suit his transport needs. There has been co-operation on all sides and the agreed system has run smoothly.

During the year Mr. Howard, the additional inspector, resigned to take up an appointment elsewhere and he was replaced by Mr. Boddy.

The following is a summary of the work carried out by the department with amplifying comments where necessary.

WATER SUPPLY

The mains supply for the district is distributed by the Mid Kent Water Company. Collection is from the North Downs at Charing by means of artesian wells and is stored in high level reservoir tanks and distributed by gravity.

The water is hard and is not plumbo-solvent.

Water Samples

	No. Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory
Raw water (Mid Kent) Chemical-analysis	-	-	-
Treated water (Mid Kent) Chemical-analysis Bacterial examination	1 8	1 8	- -
Private sources piped to dwellings	3	-	3

Analyst's report on Mid Kent water is as follows:-

<u>Chemical Examination</u>	parts per million
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.00
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.00
Nitrate Nitrogen	6.5
Nitrite Nitrogen	trace
Oxygen Absorbed in 3 hours at 27°C	0.06
Alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	100
Hardness (as CaCO ₃)	Carbonate 100
	Non-carbonate 63
	Total 163
Total solids (dried at 180°C)	252
Free Carbon dioxide as CO ₂	30
Residual Chlorine	absent
pH	6.6
Chloride (Cl)	22
Sulphate (SO ₄)	-
Calcium (Ca) as CaCO ₃	138
Magnesium (Mg) as CaCO ₃	25
Iron (Fe)	absent
Manganese (Mn)	absent

Bacteriological Examination

Number of colonies developing on Nutrient Agar per Millilitre:-

3 days at 22°C 0

1 day at 37°C 0

Bacteria of indication enumeration:-

Organisms of the coliform group 0 in 100 ml.

E. Coli 1 (Faecal) 0 in 100 ml.

Cl. welchii 0 in 100 ml.

Faecal Streptococci 0 in 100 ml.

Remarks

The bacteriological condition is excellent.

This analysis indicates a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply.

The following table shows the number of dwelling houses in each parish; those supplied with water from public and private mains and those known to be without a mains supply of any sort. The latter obtain water from springs, wells or by the storage of rainwater in underground tanks.

	No. of Houses	Est. Pop.	No. of houses with Piped Supply Public Private		Houses with Other Supplies
Bethersden	422	1166	419	-	3
Charing	818	2385	807	-	11
Egerton	264	720	251	8	5
Great Chart	298	880	296	1	1
Hothfield	263	758	261	-	2
Kingsnorth	322	985	322	-	-
Little Chart	104	310	104	-	-
Pluckley	330	948	330	-	-
Shadoxhurst	255	660	253	-	2
Smarden	351	1090	345	-	6
Westwell	273	987	261	4	8
Totals	3700	10889	3649	13	38

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE and SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The policy of the Council is to provide each village with main drainage as soon as practicable.

The combined scheme for Charing and Charing Heath is nearly completed. It is hoped that it will be in operation in the spring of 1964.

With the provision of the large disposal works in the Ashford Urban District, it is hoped that this plant will be capable of treating the sewage from the villages of Kingsnorth and Shadoxhurst. If agreement is reached this will save the rural district having to construct a separate treatment works for this area.

	Sewered	Approved Schemes	Proposed Schemes
Bethersden	1	N e a r l y C o m p l e t e d	
Charing	1		
Charing Heath			
Egerton	1		
Great Chart	1		
Hothfield	1		
Kingsnorth			1
Little Chart			1
Pluckley			1
Shadoxhurst			1
Smarden	1		
Westwell			1
Totals	6	Nil	5

School Sanitation

The sanitary facilities provided are maintained in a satisfactory manner, but there is a need for modernisation at one primary school.

Public Conveniences

The Charing public convenience is still proving a boon to the village sited as it is near a bus stop and adjacent to two cafes.

Agreement has been sought with landlords of some public houses and garages at strategic points through the district to have their conveniences signposted as "Public Conveniences" and, where agreement has been reached, the Council is paying towards their upkeep.

Cesspool Emptying

With the implementations of the Pollution of Rivers Act, 1961 farmers have withdrawn their permission for the use of land for discharging cesspool contents.

The problem of providing dumping sites that do not gravitate by ditches to streams, that cause no public health nuisance and are acceptable to the general public, is causing great concern. With only one disposal point remaining and with the attendant long hauls it is grinding the service to a standstill.

Only by the provision of main drainage schemes, the provision of large reception tanks at all the existing works can the Council in the future give as high a standard of service as it has done in the past.

It has also become apparent that small treatment plants - for groups of up to fourteen houses - after a few years tend to become overloaded, the filtration systems waterlog and require more servicing and emptying than would individual septic tanks and cesspools.

	Cesspools Emptyied	£.	s.	d.
Private 1963	1272	1900.	19.	0.
1962	1206	1846.	18.	9.
Council 1963	349	917.	2.	6.
1962	342	1007.	19.	9.
Totals 1963	1621	2818.	1.	6.
1962	1548	2854.	18.	6.

Cesspools in general register (excluding Council properties and automatic register)

<u>Total Cesspools</u>	<u>Not Emptyied</u>	<u>Emptyied Once</u>	<u>Emptyied Twice</u>
1575	736	700	139

Automatic Register

In addition to the above cesspools a number of properties were emptyied at prescribed times as agreed with the Contractor. This is occasioned by two or more properties sharing a common cesspool and by reason of its situation and the nature of the subsoil requires emptying as soon as permitted under the Council's scheme.

FOOD and DRUGS ADMINISTRATION

Number of licenced Slaughterhouses	2
Number of licenced Slaughtermen	15

Slaughterhouse Inspection

Throughout the year 100% post mortem inspection of carcasses and offal has been maintained. This has necessitated 1577 separate visits to the slaughterhouses. With the provisions of the new Regulations not only have the overtime hours been maintained but much more inspection has been undertaken during the normal working day.

The number of animals killed and inspected has increased by over 1,000. The percentage of meat condemned is fairly constant but the weight of meat found unfit for human consumption is much higher by reason of the increased number of whole carcasses condemned. Cysticercosis was detected in only 8 bovine carcasses as opposed to 12 in 1962.

The struggle still continues to wean the slaughtermen from the traditional but unhygienic practise of not sterilizing wiping cloths, knives and scabbards after each days work. The sterilizers are provided for this purpose and it is hoped to instill their use as a habit.

Details of Foodstuffs of all Types Condemned During 1963

a) Condemned at Slaughterhouses

<u>Sheep</u>		<u>lbs.</u>
55 Carcasses	Emaciation & Oedema	1480
10 Carcasses	Fevered	398
3 Carcasses	Injury	165
1 Carcase	Moribund	31
1 Carcase	Septicaemia	120
1 Carcase	Lympho Sarcoma	35
1 Carcase	Pulmonary Abscesses	65
1 Loin & saddle	Fevered	15
1 Shoulder	Abscesses	8
1 Forequarter	Abscesses	21
1 Flank	Injury	4
8 Legs	Injury	43

Pigs

13 Carcasses	Emaciation & Oedema	755
3 Carcasses	Fevered	234
2 Carcasses	Pneumonia	131
1 Carcase	Osteomyelitis	60
1 Carcase	Sapraemia	110
1 Carcase	Pyaemia	79
1 Carcase	Decomposition	120
1 Carcase	Abscesses	73
1 Carcase	Injury	44
78 Heads	Tuberculosis	1036
2 Heads	Abscesses	21
4 Knuckles	Arthritis	9
31 Legs	Arthritis	160
16 Legs	Abscesses	77
13 Legs	Injury	116
1 Cheek & Neck	Abscesses	4
1 Shoulder	Abscesses	2
Trimnings of Hindquarters	Dermatitis	20
1 Hindquarters (part)	Orchitis	6
1 Hindquarters	Abscesses	70
1 Loin (part)	Abscesses	4

c/fwd 5516

a) Condemned at Slaughterhouses (cont.)

		<u>lbs</u>
<u>Beasts</u>	b/fwd.	5516
1 Carcase	Actinomycosis	370
<u>Cows</u>		
3 Carcases	Emaciation & Oedema	712
3 Carcases	Septicaemia	992
1 Carcase	Septic Pleurisy & Peritonitis	231
1 Carcase	Injury	274
2 Flanks	Injury	78
1 Rump & top piece	Abscesses	100
<u>Calves</u>		
3 Carcases	Fevered	128
1 Carcase	Injury & Oedema	37
1 Carcase	Pyaemia	76
1 Carcase	Immature	30
1 Loin	Injury	<u>30</u>
	Total meat condemned	8574
	Total offal condemned	15773

b) Condemned in Shops

Ox Liver	Abscesses	11
Lambs Livers	Decomposition	110
Corned Beef	Decomposition	2
Pigs Plucks	Decomposition	<u>204</u>
	Total condemned in shops	327

c) Condemned in Stores

Carrots	Decomposition	<u>10224</u>
	Total condemned in stores	10224

Total foodstuffs condemned:

15 tons. 11 cwts. 2 qtrs. 10 lbs.

Figures in brackets refer to 1962.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed and inspected	1481 (1568)	1446 (772)	1446 (1049)	29331 (26576)	8181 (7102)	41885 (37067)
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT T.B. & CYSTICERCI</u> Whole carcasses condemned	2 (-)	7 (2)	10 (3)	74 (76)	13 (5)	106 (86)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	233 (244)	509 (259)	5 (3)	963 (987)	772 (565)	2482 (2058)
% of the num- ber inspected affected with diseases other than T.B.	15.9 (15.5)	35.75 (33.8)	1 (5)	3.5 (4)	9.5 (8)	
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u> Whole carcasses condemned	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	64 (61)	64 (61)
% of the num- ber inspected affected with Tuberculosis	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	.78 (.85)	
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u> Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3 (7)	5 (5)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	8 (12)
Carcasses sub- mitted to treatment by refrigeration	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Generalised and totally condemned	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

Knackers Yards (Offensive Trade)

Number of Licences issued	1
Number of Inspections	8

This family business is carried on in a very satisfactory manner.

At the onset of the fluoroacetamide deaths two carcasses were received at the yard but luckily these were incinerated and not disposed of for animal feeding.

Inspection and Supervision of Food Premises

The following table indicates the number of the various types of food premises in the area.

Licenced premises including clubs	32
Cafes and Restaurants	10
Butchers Shops	9
Fruit and Vegetable Shops	3
Grocers and General Shops	36
Creamery	1
Confectioners	3
Food Factories	<u>3</u>
	97
	<u><u> </u></u>

During the year 173 inspections were made.

Licensed Premises

Ten visits were paid to public houses and clubs during the year.

Two premises are in process of modernisation. The general trend to improve the conveniences for both sexes and making access to them from the bars, thus obviating leaving the premises.

All the bars washing facilities and amenities were well maintained. The managers and landlords co-operated well.

Restaurants and Restaurant Kitchens

Number of inspections 23

The visits paid to these premises were made at all hours of the working day. The kitchens were clean and there were no instances of contravention. No complaints were received of unsatisfactory food or service.

Bakehouses

Number of Registered Bakehouses	4
Number of Inspections	16

These small family bakehouses were always found clean and free from mice etc. Routine cleansing of walls was carried out at the prescribed times.

Ice Cream Premises

Inspections of ice cream storage and handling methods was carried out when visits were paid to the premises for other purposes. All registered premises sell pre-wrapped ice cream. There are no manufacturers in the area.

MILK SUPPLIES

Number of Registered Distributors of Milk 19

Number of Registered Dairies 4

There are no pasteurising plants within the rural district. All milk is pasteurised and comes from three plants in surrounding districts.

(1) Co-operative Dairy, Ashford.

(2) Sharps Dairies, Ramsgate.

(3) South Eastern Farmers Dairies, Headcorn.

No complaints were received during the year of unsatisfactory milk or milk containers.

No samples were taken of the retailed milk as the same supplies were being sampled in the urban area.

Cowsheds and Dairies were at all times kept clean and in a satisfactory condition.

Sampling by County Sampling Officers

The following details are of samples taken within the rural district and submitted to the Public Analyst. The figures were furnished by the Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department of the Kent County Council, which is the responsible authority for this purpose.

<u>Article</u>	<u>No.</u>
Antussin Cough Treatment	1
Apricot Halves in heavy syrup	1
Best Butter Drops	1
Bitter Chocolate Orange Jelly	1
Butter	1
Channel Island Cream	4
Chicken Meat Paste	1
Chicken Pasty	1
Chocolate Cake Mix	1
Club Ginger	1
Cream	1
Family Fruit Cake	<u>1</u>

<u>Article</u>	<u>No.</u>
	b/fwd. 15
Farm Animals (Sweets)	1
Flying Saucers (Sweets)	1
Fruit Pie, Strawberry	2
Gin	2
Lemonade	1
Meat Pie	1
Meat Pudding	1
Milk Gums	1
Milk Chocolate Peanuts	1
Milk	19
Minced Beef with Onion and Gravy	1
Orange Squash	1
Patum Peperium	1
Pork Sausages	1
Quick Flan with Quick Jel	1
Steak and Kidney Pie	1
Steak and Vegetables	1
Senokot; A Pure Vegetable Product	1
Sliced Peaches in heavy syrup	1
Royal Game Soup	1
The Gargle	1
Whisky	<u>2</u>
	58

Summary

Milks	19
Drugs	3
Spirits	4
Other Samples	<u>32</u>
	58
	<u><u>58</u></u>

All the above samples were satisfactory with the exception of the following:-

<u>Sample of</u>	<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
Farm Animals (Sweets)	Contained a trace of Brilliant Blue FCF which is not a permitted colouring.	No further action taken as the maker could not be traced.
Pork Sausages	Declaration of Sulphite (240 parts per million) did not comply with Preservative Regulations.	The makers will amend label.

HOUSING

Throughout the year the inspection of old properties continued. Wherever possible, owners of houses lacking in amenities were urged to participate in the Grant Aid schemes. Only cases of advanced decay, and where repair and modernisation could not be carried out at a reasonable expense, was demolition procedure instituted.

(1) Number of houses reported under Section 16.	11
Number of Demolition Orders made	1
Number of Closing Orders made	5
Number of houses Demolished	Nil
(2) Number of houses made fit as a result of informal action	17

Inspections

The number and character of housing inspections carried out in accordance with housing is as follows:-

Inspections on complaint	81
Reinspections on service of notice	99
Informal notices served	12
Informal notices complied	16
Statutory notices served	Nil
Statutory notices complied	Nil
Dwellings inspected and recorded	11

The following table sets out sanitary work effected and improvements carried out to existing premises.

Ashbins provided	7
Baths provided	23
Brickwork repaired	3
Hot water systems provided	23

Ventilated pantries provided	19
Inside walls repaired	4
Rain water pipes and gutters renewed	14
Roofs repaired	1
Windows/sash cords repaired	5
New drains constructed	19
Inspection chambers constructed	15
Premises connected to septic tanks	12
Premises connected to sewers	1
Pail closets demolished	10
Premises disinfected/disinfested	15
Inspections of all kinds	1762
Office interviews	184

Grant Aid: Discretionary and Standard

During the year applications for grant aid was approximately in the same ratio as for the last two years.

Discretionary grants are still the most popular in rural areas for with the installation of the amenities it is found that drainage systems are required. Where the property is sewered and where a spare room exists, which can readily be converted to a bathroom, the Standard Grant is favoured.

Discretionary Grants

Preliminary grants approved in principle	25
Grants proceeded with	10
Grants completed	18
Total grant aid given	£6724. 5. 0.

Standard Grants

Applications approved	11
Schemes completed	8
Total grant aid given	£906. 4. 9.

The following comparable tables show the disposition of grant aid since 1958.

Discretionary Grants

Year	Approved in Principle	Commenced	Completed	Grant Aid £. s. d.
1958	28	18	22	6542. 16. 3.
1959	37	20	17	4386. 9. 5.
1960	47	22	14	4045. 3. 0.
1961	32	35	30	10525. 1. 0.
1962	20	26	26	9382. 13. 6.
1963	25	10	18	6724. 5. 0.
Total	189	131	127	41606. 8. 2.

Standard Grants

Year	Approved in Principle	Commenced	Completed	Grant Aid £. s. d.
1961	9	9	9	1019. 7. 6.
1962	12	8	8	1075. 0. 0.
1963	11	8	8	906. 4. 9.
Total	32	25	25	3000. 12. 3.

Council Housing Programme

Once again the entire building project has been for bungalows. These in the main house 'Old People', but are also suitable units for young married couples with either one or no children. To enable the Council to adequately cater for all sizes of family units there must be a willingness for tenants in under occupied houses to move to smaller properties. This flexibility would allow the housing manager a chance to offer accommodation to the larger families more often than when a casual vacancy occurs.

Re-Housing

Number of families re-housed 47

Number of families on housing list 108

House Erection

By Local Authority	19
By Private Enterprise	63

RODENT CONTROL

For this service the Council employs a full time operator. He is a conscientious employee who carries out his duties in a happy but efficient manner. His time is divided between his statutory duties of agricultural surveys and treatments of sewers and the survey and treatment of dwelling houses - as a charge on the rates - and the treatment of business premises and farm buildings on repayment.

Although works of eradication was hampered by the severe weather conditions of the early months, there was neither a noticeable increase nor decrease in the rat population.

The bait generally used was pinhead oatmeal and the poison warfarin 0.5%. During sewer treatments the usual addition were included.

Except in an old defective brick barrel sewer - which is to be relaid - no rats were discovered in any of the village sewers.

The figures given in the summary in the third paragraph are an approximation obtained from the remaining data left following a break in at the Council's depot and the theft of - amongst other things - the operator's diary.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All Other (including Business Premises)
Total number of properties	10	3700	343	138
Number of properties inspected as result of notification	10	43	22	14
Number of properties inspected as result of survey or otherwise	-	127	97	22
Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by	Rats 9	39	27	12
	Mice 1	7	1	3
Number of infested properties treated by L.A. (completed treatments only)	9	39	10	6
Total treatments carried out including retreatments	10	46	28	15
Number of "Block Control" treatments carried out 3 of 2, 2 of 3 and 2 of 4				

DISINFECTION and DISINFESTATION

Except for two cases of flea infestations in houses, general disinfections were not required. This is undoubtedly one of the gratifying factors due to a free health service, the work carried out by district nurses and health visitors, health education and the general uplifting of living conditions.

The following infestations were treated:-

Fleas	2
Bees	1
Wasps	18
Beetles	1
Ants	4
Flies	1

REFUSE COLLECTION and SALVAGE

The last three months of the year saw the commencement of a weekly collection of house and trade refuse throughout the district. The augmented service required the employment of an additional fore and aft tipping refuse collection vehicle.

Three separate teams of three men operate from Monday to Thursday throughout the district. This normally covers all villages except during sickness and holiday periods when collection has to be undertaken on Friday.

It is the usual practice for Fridays to be employed in baling paper, washing vehicles and the clearance of roadside dumps, car parks and the like.

Following an agreement with the adjacent urban district, the tips are now under its control and all tipped refuse is covered as soon as deposited. A repayment scheme for this service has been agreed between the two Councils.

The collection of salvageable materials during the ordinary rounds gives a valuable income which offsets to some degree the cost of the service.

Figures in brackets refer to 1962

	Tons.	Cwts.	£.	s.	d.
Mixed waste papers and cardboard	193 (183)	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ 0 $\frac{1}{4}$)	1574. (1521.	0. 11.	11. 3.)
Metals, rags etc.	-	-	80. (114.	12. 19.	7. 10.)
Totals			1654. (1636.	13. 11.	6. 1.)

CARAVAN SITES

Number of private sites in the area	2
Number of Gypsy sites owned by Council	1

Private Caravan Sites

Both sites are licensed for thirty caravans each.

On one inspection it was noticed that the fire fighting equipment had deteriorated, this was remedied.

Applications to increase the size of both sites to a minimum of fifty caravans - the recommended economic figure for the impositioning of the full model conditions - were refused at Planning Appeals. Both sites were in use prior to the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, and I feel that an increase to the suggested economic minimum should be allowed, which would give the operator a better return and the site users higher standards.

In the main the sites are occupied by permanent residents.

Council Gypsy Site

This camp is still serving a useful purpose in the rehabilitation of the class of people for which it caters.

There are still many problems to be overcome and much damage is done.

Two families were successfully rehoused and integrated into the ordinary life of the villages.

The children are getting a grounding of education and are becoming more amenable to group living.

The task of moulding the tenants into useful citizens is hard and long. Many years must elapse before there are signs of even partial success. The Council should be congratulated on the steadfast manner in which the members uphold the efforts of the officers and, in spite of setbacks, will not countenance failure in the experiment.

Following the banning of dogs on the site, 1963 saw no cases of sheep worrying at the surrounding farms.

As circumstances permit, and families show signs of conforming to ordinary standards, the Council will maintain its policy to rehouse the tenants.

FACTORY ADMINISTRATION

During the year forty-four visits were paid to the various factory premises.

In one instance an informal notice was served for improvement of water-closet accommodation and the provision of hot water and washing facilities.

Great concern was - and still is - being felt by the accidental discharge of a toxic chemical from an insecticide factory. Many deaths of farm stock took place by ingestion of pond and ditch waters contaminated by fluoroacetamide.

The product was banned and the slow process continues in making safe the water and surrounding farm lands.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act, 1937

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	No. on Reg. (2)	Number of		
		Inspection (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority	6	7	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	34	67	3	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	40	74	3	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	-	1	-

2. Cases in which defects were found (cont.)

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Reme- died (3)	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspec- tor (4)	by H.M. Inspec- tor (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	3	3	-	1	-

Part VIII of the Act - Outwork (Section 110)

Nature of work (1)	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)
Wearing Apparel - Making etc.	1	-	-
All Others	-	-	-
Totals	1	Nil	Nil

Section 111

Nature of Work	Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices Served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing Apparel - Making etc.	-	-	-
All Others	-	-	-
Totals	Nil	Nil	Nil

SHOPS ACT ADMINISTRATION

In this area it is customary to oversee the provisions of the Shops Act whilst visiting the premises for some other duty.

Most shops are village owner/occupier premises and but a few are employers of labour.

In conclusion I would like to record my thanks and appreciation to the Council for their continuous support and interest during the year and to the staff for their loyal co-operation at all times

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR H. HAYES

Senior Public Health Inspector

